



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	MT. PLEASANT, TX	Accident Number:	FTW82DA190
Date & Time:	05/22/1982, 1645 CDT	Registration:	N5045G
Aircraft:	BELLANCA 7GCBC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

AFTER TAKEOFF FROM RUNWAY 17, THE PILOT DEPARTED THE TRAFFIC PATTERN AND WAS ABOUT 1.5 MILES NORTH OF THE AIRPORT WHEN THE ENGINE COUGHED. HE IMMEDIATELY TURNED BACK TOWARD THE AIRPORT, BUT SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE ENGINE LOST ALL POWER. HE DECIDED TO LAND ON A ROAD. AFTER TOUCHDOWN, HE WAS UNABLE TO MAKE A TURN IN THE ROAD AND SLID INTO A DITCH AND STRUCK TWO SMALL SAPLINGS. THE AIRPORT MANAGER STATED THAT THE AIRCRAFT WAS OUT OF FUEL.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: CLIMB - TO CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 2. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
 3. (C) FUEL SUPPLY - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - DITCH
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Occurrence #4: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

5. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	33, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	08/19/1981
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	655 hours (Total, all aircraft), 188 hours (Total, this make and model), 598 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 153 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BELLANCA	Registration:	N5045G
Model/Series:	7GCBC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	1130-79
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	3
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	0 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	670 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-320
Registered Owner:	GRADY E. FIRMIN	Rated Power:	160 hp
Operator:	T.P. LOVING	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 6000 ft agl	Visibility	40 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	130°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	/ 0° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	MT. PLEASANT, TX	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	MT. PLEASANT, TX	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Report Date:	05/22/1983
Additional Participating Persons:		
Publish Date:	06/07/2018	
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinquiry@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .	

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).